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United Nations

Commission on Narcotic Drugs

Report on the reconvened fifty-seventh session (3-5 December 2014)

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Official Records, 2014
Supplement No. 8A

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Note

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Chapter I

Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

A. Draft decision for adoption by the Economic and Social Council

1. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

Draft decision

Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its reconvened fifty-seventh session

The Economic and Social Council takes note of the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its reconvened fifty-seventh session.

B. Matters brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council

2. The attention of the Economic and Social Council is drawn to the following resolution, adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its reconvened fifty-seventh session, and to the action taken pursuant to General Assembly resolution 46/185 C, in section XVI of which the Assembly authorized the Commission to approve the programme budget for the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme:

Resolution 57/12

Implementation of the budget for the biennium 2014-2015 for the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Exercising the administrative and financial functions entrusted to it by the General Assembly in its resolution 46/185 C, section XVI, paragraph 2, of 20 December 1991,

Having considered the report of the Executive Director on the implementation of the consolidated budget for the biennium 2014-2015 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,[1]

Recalling its resolution 56/17 of 13 December 2013,

1. *Notes* that the report of the Executive Director on the implementation of the consolidated budget for the biennium 2014-2015 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime[1] provides information on the adjustments to the consolidated budget;

[1] E/CN.7/2014/18-E/CN.15/2014/21.

2. *Also notes* the continued strong donor confidence in programme delivery by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, as reflected by the increase in special-purpose contributions;

3. *Further notes* that a new funding model should, inter alia, not hinder the field operations and headquarters activities of the Office or affect delivery;

4. *Reiterates* that the Commission should continue to assess the provisional implementation by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of full cost recovery in the biennium 2014-2015 with regard to its efficiency, feasibility and impact on the integrity and cost of United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime field offices and projects;

5. *Highlights* that full cost recovery cannot be applied retroactively except through bilateral agreements between the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the relevant donors, taking into account, as appropriate, the views of recipient countries;

6. *Notes* that consultation between Member States and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on possible interpretation and application of policies on full cost recovery and programme support costs is required on an ongoing basis;

7. *Also notes* the cost-saving measures taken by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to maintain general-purpose expenditure at 11,189,700 United States dollars and programme support cost expenditure at 23,880,600 dollars;

8. *Encourages* the ongoing efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to develop an annual report and an annual pledging process, as a means to strengthen results-based management and transparency, and invites Member States to provide extrabudgetary resources for these purposes;

9. *Endorses* the revised estimates for special-purpose funds as indicated below:

Resource projections for the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
	Approved budget, 2014-2015	*Revised budget, 2014-2015*	*Approved budget, 2014-2015*	*Revised budget, 2014-2015*
General-purpose funds				
Post	10 451.9	10 430.9	28	30
Non-post	737.8	758.8	–	–
Subtotal	**11 189.7**	**11 189.7**	**28**	**30**
Programme support cost funds				
Post	19 499.8	19 054.6	93	93
Non-post	4 380.8	4 826.0	–	–
Subtotal	**23 880.6**	**23 880.6**	**93**	**93**
Special-purpose funds	304 567.8	323 384.7	112	137
Total	**339 638.1**	**358 455.0**	**233**	**260**

10. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to strengthen its efforts to further encourage donors to provide general-purpose funding, including by means of further increasing transparency and quality of reporting, and invites Member States and other donors to consider providing support to the general-purpose funds of the Office;

11. *Remains fully committed* to increasing the effectiveness and results of the technical assistance programmes of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and of their delivery, and reaffirms the need to engage in thorough consultations among relevant actors, including the recipient countries, in advance of any possible changes to the field presence of the Office;

12. *Notes* that the estimated resource projections above are subject to the availability of funding.

Decision 57/2

Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

In order to take all possible measures to ensure an adequate, inclusive and effective preparatory process for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016, at its 4th meeting, on 4 December 2014, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs decided that:

(a) In order to ensure continuity with respect to its work preparing for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016, a Board tasked by the Commission with the preparations for the special session would be elected based on the regional distribution of officers of the Bureau of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission. The Board would participate in the meetings of the extended bureaux of the fifty-eighth and fifty-ninth sessions of the Commission and would assist the Commission and the Chairs of the respective sessions in fulfilling their mandate in accordance with Commission resolution 57/5 of 21 March 2014;

(b) The Board would be in charge of organizing all actions to be taken by the Commission in preparation for the special session and will address all organizational and substantive matters, in an open-ended manner, in preparation for and during the special segments of Commission sessions devoted to the preparations for the special session;

(c) The Board would facilitate the participation of all States Members and observers of the United Nations, along with organs, entities and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, multilateral development banks and other relevant international and regional organizations, parliamentarians, the scientific community and civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations, in its preparations for the special session, in full compliance with Commission resolution 57/5 and General Assembly resolution 69/200 of 18 December 2014.

Decision 57/3

Provisional agenda for the special segment to be held during the fifty-eighth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in March 2015, on preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

At the 3rd meeting of its special segment, on 5 December 2014, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs approved the provisional agenda for the special segment to be held during the fifty-eighth session of the Commission, in March 2015, on preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016, as set out below:

1. Opening of the special segment.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. General debate on the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016.
4. Interactive discussions on high-level segments to be held during the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016.
5. Provisional agendas for subsequent special segments to be held by the Commission in preparation for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016, and the organization of the intersessional work of the Commission.
6. Other business.
7. Outcome and closure of the special segment.

Chapter II

Special segment on the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

3. At the 1st, 2nd and 4th meetings, on 3 and 4 December 2014, during the regular part of the reconvened session conducted under item 9, entitled "Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem: follow-up to the high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in view of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016", statements were made by the representatives of Thailand, Austria, Mexico, Namibia (on behalf of the Group of African States), Italy, the Russian Federation, Colombia, Pakistan, Uruguay, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Netherlands, China, Afghanistan and Germany. A statement was also made by the observer for Switzerland.

A. Opening of the special segment

4. At its 2nd, 4th and 5th meetings, on 3, 4 and 5 December 2014, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs held a special segment under agenda item 9. The special segment was opened by the Chair of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission. During its special segment, the Commission viewed video statements by the President of the General Assembly and the Deputy Secretary-General. A statement was made by the Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) on behalf of the Executive Director of UNODC.

5. A videoconference was conducted with representatives of the following United Nations entities and specialized agencies: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, United Nations Development Programme and Department of Political Affairs and Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat. The videoconference was followed by a statement by the observer for the World Health Organization.

6. Statements were made by the representatives of Italy (on behalf of the European Union and Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, San Marino and Ukraine), Peru, Ecuador, Sweden, Afghanistan, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Switzerland, the Republic of Korea, Norway, Nigeria, Brazil, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Morocco, Colombia, the Russian Federation, Indonesia, Germany, El Salvador, the United States of America, Mexico, China, Pakistan, Guatemala, Uruguay, Cuba, South Africa, Netherlands, Costa Rica, Italy, Algeria, Indonesia, Egypt, Spain, Turkey and Bolivia (Plurinational State of).

7. Observers for IOGT International, the International Drug Policy Consortium, the Society for Threatened Peoples and the San Patrignano Foundation also made statements.

8. For its consideration during the special segment, the Commission had before it the following:

(a) Report of the Secretariat entitled "Special segment: preparations for, the possible outcomes of and organizational matters relating to the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016" (E/CN.7/2014/17);

(b) Conference room paper entitled "Special segment: proposals by the Chair of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs relating to the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016 for consideration by the Commission" (E/CN.7/2014/CRP.15);

(c) Conference room paper entitled "Declaration of the Heads of States-Participants of the Commonwealth of Independent States on preserving and strengthening the international drug control system" (E/CN.7/2014/CRP.17).

B. Outcome of the special segment

9. Many speakers welcomed the revised proposals by the Chair of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission relating to the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016, as submitted for the consideration of the Commission,[2] and noted that the proposals had provided a useful basis for the continuing preparations for the special session.

10. It was emphasized that the Commission, as the organ with the prime responsibility for drug control matters, should continue to lead the preparatory process for the special session, pursuant to Commission resolution 57/5, and that the work undertaken by the Commission in its preparations for the special session should be used to promote and strengthen international cooperation in drug control on the basis of the principle of common and shared responsibility. The special segments to be held by the Commission in preparation for the special session would allow the international community to contribute significantly to the substantive and organizational aspects of that session.

11. The holding of a high-level thematic debate in 2015, as approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 69/201 on international cooperation against the world drug problem, was welcomed by several speakers, while other speakers noted that such an event should be organized with the active participation and involvement of the Commission, whose work should not be duplicated.

12. It was emphasized that the special session to be held in 2016 would provide a unique opportunity for the international community to assess achievements and challenges encountered in addressing the world drug problem. Many speakers stated that, at the special session in 2016, the discussions should be based on the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated

[2] E/CN.7/2014/CRP.15.

and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, and on the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem. A number of other speakers stated that regional realities, challenges, new approaches and emerging trends should be discussed as well.

13. A number of speakers stressed that any new approaches should be implemented within the confines of the three international drug control conventions, the Political Declaration and Plan of Action and the Joint Ministerial Statement, with the view to improving their implementation.

14. A number of speakers highlighted the need for a balanced approach in relation to supply and demand reduction efforts and the need to ensure an integrated, mutually reinforcing and multidisciplinary approach to addressing the world drug problem, while giving equal importance to different aspects, such as prevention, treatment, social reintegration, HIV/AIDS, alternative development, law enforcement, combating trafficking in precursors, countering money-laundering and financial flows relating to drug trafficking, the use of the Internet for drug trafficking and new psychoactive substances, the proportionality of sentences and alternate sanctions, and promoting international judicial cooperation. The growing links between drug trafficking and other forms of organized crime, as well as terrorism, were highlighted by a number of speakers.

15. A number of speakers mentioned the importance of discussing the abolition of the death penalty in all circumstances, including for drug-related offences, and, in a wider framework, the importance of the promotion of drug policies based on respect for human dignity, liberty, democracy, equality, solidarity, the rule of law and human rights. Other speakers noted that concerns regarding national sovereignty, territorial integrity and cultural sensitivities should be respected and that sentencing for drug-related offences should be determined by the respective national legislation of States.

16. Many speakers emphasized the need to safeguard, as well as fully and adequately implement, the international drug control conventions and other relevant instruments, and reiterated their commitment to the three thematic pillars of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action.

17. Some speakers expressed concern regarding the current drug control policies and noted that a new approach was needed to drug control, in particular one that took into account social, cultural and historical specificities. One speaker called for the development of a new international convention on drug control based on shared responsibility and on the basis of respect for human rights, cultural diversity and nature. Several speakers said that more attention should be devoted to the poverty and inequality affecting the growers of illicit crops.

18. A number of speakers referred to the need to increase the operational capacity of all States in addressing the world drug problem through the provision of technical and financial assistance. They also referred to the need to increase the effectiveness of alternative development programmes as part of the broader economic development agenda and to develop innovative approaches to preventive actions, such as youth employment. A few speakers mentioned that alternative development

programmes should include, where appropriate, preventive alternative development. A number of speakers underlined the importance of enhancing the effectiveness of technical cooperation, including through its alignment with national and regional priorities and strategies. One speaker also mentioned that the role of UNODC, supported by other United Nations specialized agencies, funds and programmes, in international drug control could be stressed during the special session.

19. Reference was made to the need to review the role of drug policies in achieving the sustainable development goals and targets to be assessed by the international community at the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, to be held in September 2015.

20. Many speakers emphasized the importance of an inclusive preparatory process for the special session of the General Assembly to be held in 2016, with the effective involvement of all relevant United Nations agencies and bodies, relevant intergovernmental organizations, the scientific and academic communities and civil society. It was mentioned that General Assembly practices in that regard should be taken into account.

21. The creation by the Commission of a website on the special session (www.ungass2016.org), as a tool to facilitate a broader consultation process with United Nations entities, international and regional organizations and non-governmental organizations and to function as a hub of knowledge in the preparation for the special session, was welcomed, and note was taken of the contributions that had been made available on the website.

22. Reference was also made to the fact that the Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs and the New York NGO Committee on Drugs had created a civil society task force to organize their preparations for the special session.

23. In relation to the draft provisional agenda for the special session, as proposed by the Chair of the Commission at its fifty-seventh session, the proposal to hold a high-level general debate concurrently with the high-level workshops was welcomed. Some speakers mentioned that the terminology to be used should be "round tables", rather than "workshops", in the light of the technical nature of the term, and in line with the terminology used for other special sessions of the General Assembly.

24. Several speakers made specific proposals on the number, titles, format and thematic content of the "workshops" to be held during the special session. Many speakers stressed the importance of a discussion on improving access to controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes and the need to have that explicitly reflected in the agenda. Some speakers proposed the organization of an additional "workshop" to discuss new realities and approaches in addressing the world drug problem, which was not supported by other speakers. Several speakers mentioned that human rights, gender-related issues and the involvement of civil society should be cross-cutting issues in all the proposed high-level "workshops". Some speakers mentioned that a discussion on human rights would need to include all human rights in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in a holistic manner. It was proposed by several speakers that the wording "sustainable development" be replaced by "alternative development".

25. Other speakers proposed that the titles for the "workshops" remained generic in order to allow for flexibility. A number of speakers proposed that the "workshops" be based on the three pillars of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action.

26. Some speakers said that, although it would be premature to foresee the nature of the outcome of the special session in 2016, it should be built on the most salient elements of the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem and it should be based on best practices, in order to develop an operational outcome in all areas of drug control by 2019. A number of speakers stressed that the outcome of the special session should be based on recommendations emanating from the Commission, while other speakers said that the outcome should also take into account regional realities and that contributions to it should not be restricted to the Commission.

27. It was noted that the action-oriented recommendations to be prepared by the Commission, for subsequent adoption by the General Assembly at its special session in 2016, should be concrete, focused and aimed at strengthening operational capacities. Support was also expressed for having the salient points raised during each of the high-level "workshops" reflected in a summary by the Chair.

28. The proposed organization of work for the special segment on the preparations for the special session, to be held during the fifty-eighth session of the Commission in March 2015, was also discussed. While support was expressed by a number of delegations for the proposal submitted by the Chair and the importance of the Commission advancing its planning was stressed, some delegations felt that more time was needed to discuss the themes of the interactive discussions that would be held during the special segment.

C. Action taken by the Commission

29. At its 4th meeting, on 4 December 2014, the Commission adopted a draft decision entitled "Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016" (E/CN.7/2014/L.17/Rev.1), as orally amended. (For the text, see chap. I, sect. B, decision 57/2.) Prior to the adoption of the decision, the representatives of Austria and Thailand stated that their understanding of the Board tasked by the Commission with the preparations for the special session, as referenced in the decision, was that it would be a body composed of five members, namely a Chair and four Vice-Chairs. Following the adoption of the decision, the observer for Ecuador expressed support for the text as proposed and stated that the process should be inclusive and participatory and that Ecuador would like to ensure that an explicit invitation would be extended to academia to participate in the preparatory process for the special session.

30. At the 3rd meeting of its special segment, on 5 December 2014, the Commission adopted the draft decision containing the provisional agenda for the special segment to be held during the fifty-eighth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in March 2015, on preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

(E/CN.7/2014/L.18), as orally amended. (For the text, see chap. I, sect. B, decision 57/3.)

D. Closure of the special segment

31. A closing statement was made by the Chair of the Commission.

Chapter III

Policy directives to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and strengthening the drug programme and the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as its governing body, including administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions

32. At the 3rd meeting of the reconvened fifty-seventh session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, held jointly with the reconvened twenty-third session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, on 4 December 2014, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs considered agenda item 12, which read as follows:

> "Policy directives to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and strengthening the drug programme and the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as its governing body, including administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions:
>
> "(a) Work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and policy directives;
>
> "(b) Role of the Commission as the governing body of the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;
>
> "(i) Strengthening the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;
>
> "(ii) Administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions."

33. For its consideration of item 12, the Commission had before it the following:

(a) Report of the Executive Director on the implementation of the consolidated budget for the biennium 2014-2015 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/CN.7/2014/18-E/CN.15/2014/21);

(b) Note by the Secretariat on the work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/CN.7/2014/8/Add.1-E/CN.15/2014/8/Add.1);

(c) Statement by the co-chairs of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/CN.7/2014/CRP.16-E/CN.15/2014/CRP.8).

34. The Director of the Division for Management of UNODC made an introductory statement. The representative of Spain, in his capacity as co-chair of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC, also made an introductory statement.

35. Statements were made by the observers for the Philippines (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China) and Paraguay (on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States) and the representative of Italy (on behalf of the European

Union). Statements were also made by the representatives of Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, the United States, Pakistan, Canada, China, Afghanistan, Mexico, Brazil and Iran (Islamic Republic of). The observers for Sweden and Norway also made statements.

A. Deliberations

36. A number of speakers noted that the full cost recovery funding model was an instrument for increased transparency and efficiency, and stressed the importance of its full implementation. Some speakers welcomed UNODC plans to establish an annual report and pledging process that would improve transparency and results-based management. Reference was made to the importance of low overhead costs, maintaining the competitiveness of UNODC and the development of a clear strategic narrative that would tie the efforts of UNODC in the field with those at headquarters.

37. The increase in special-purpose contributions was welcomed as a sign of confidence in the work of the Office, while concern was expressed over the decline in general-purpose resources. Some speakers called for full and consistent implementation of full cost recovery to enable an informed discussion and improve the strategic direction of the Office. Reference was also made to the work of the interdivisional Senior-Level Full Cost Recovery Monitoring Committee.

38. One speaker recalled the provisional basis of the full cost recovery model and the need to review its feasibility, and stressed the importance of its consistent and transparent implementation. Some speakers also noted that full cost recovery was not to be applied retroactively, except through bilateral agreements between UNODC and donors on a case-by-case basis. One speaker expressed the view that the use of programme support costs should not be limited to headquarters, and called for the flexible use of those funds. Cost-saving measures should be continued. Efforts to solicit general-purpose funds from Member States, strengthen the governance structure and provide quality reporting were also mentioned.

39. Some speakers stressed the importance of ensuring that the new funding model did not have a negative impact on the provision of technical assistance to Member States by UNODC and of supporting the activities of field offices. In the view of some speakers, the core technical assistance requirements should be covered by the regular budget of UNODC.

40. One speaker highlighted the role of recipient countries in the budgeting decision-making processes of UNODC, including in the planning, implementation and monitoring of technical assistance projects.

41. One speaker noted the importance of human rights and the rule of law as cross-cutting issues in UNODC projects. Reference was made to the unique role of UNODC in tackling drugs and crime with a holistic approach, through a strong presence in the field and in accordance with its mandate.

42. One speaker noted the critical role of UNODC in promoting institutional change in countries with regard to drug and crime control, in the framework of the three international drug control conventions, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the United Nations Convention against

Corruption. It was noted that there had been progress in tackling new psychoactive substances, the monitoring of illicit crop cultivation, container control and the countering of money-laundering.

43. Several speakers reaffirmed the decision establishing the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC as a useful consultative forum to share views among Member States and between Member States and UNODC. Several speakers shared the view that the working group provided a transparent process driven by Member States to address governance and the financial situation of UNODC. It had proved its importance as a forum for dialogue during the intersessional period on programme development and implementation, and speakers called for the extension of its mandate.

44. It was also emphasized that the Secretariat must continue to discuss ways of addressing the persistent, unpredictable and constrained financial situation of UNODC, as well as the need to ensure the delivery capacity of UNODC and the sustainability of its thematic, global and regional programmes.

45. Several speakers commended the leadership of the co-chairs of the working group, and expressed their support for the extension of the mandate of the working group. The fifty-eighth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the twenty-fourth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice were to provide the opportunity for a thorough review of the work of the working group with respect to the extension of its mandate.

46. Some speakers called for targeted and enhanced efforts to ensure equitable geographical distribution of posts and gender balance within UNODC, especially at the senior and policymaking levels, and suggested that the matter be included as a standing agenda item for the Commissions, as well as for the meetings of the working group.

47. One speaker noted the progress made in consolidating the Independent Evaluation Unit, as well as a culture of evaluation at headquarters and field offices. In relation to the role played by the working group in discussing the evaluation of UNODC programmes, one speaker noted the importance of introducing impact analysis in the evaluation of UNODC programmes that were considered at meetings of the working group.

B. Action taken by the Commission

48. At its 5th meeting, on 5 December, the Commission took note of the statement of the co-chairs of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC (see annex).

49. At its 5th meeting, on 5 December, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the budget for the biennium 2014-2015 for the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme". (For the text of the resolution, see chap. I, sect. B, resolution 57/12.)

Chapter IV

Provisional agenda for the fifty-eighth session of the Commission

50. At its 5th meeting, on 5 December, the Commission considered agenda item 13, entitled "Provisional agenda for the fifty-eighth session of the Commission". The Chair introduced the item and brought to the attention of the Commission matters relating to the organization of work for its fifty-eighth session. Statements were made by the representatives of Indonesia (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Pakistan, Algeria and the Republic of Korea.

A. Deliberations

1. Duration of the fifty-eighth session and other arrangements

51. The Chair recalled that the extended Bureau, at its meetings on 21 October and 26 November, and the Commission, at its intersessional meeting on 23 October, had recommended Monday, 9 March to Tuesday, 17 March 2015 as the dates for the fifty-eighth session of the Commission, with the special segment to be held from Monday, 9 March to Thursday, 12 March 2015. Furthermore, the dates of 10 and 11 December 2015 had been recommended for the reconvened fifty-eighth session of the Commission.

52. It was also recalled that, in accordance with its decision 55/1, the firm deadline for the submission of draft resolutions would be one month in advance of the commencement of the session. The Chair recalled that, at its intersessional meeting on 23 October, the Commission had recommended that the deadline be set for Monday, 9 February 2015 at noon.

2. Provisional agenda for the fifty-eighth session of the Commission

53. The representative of Indonesia (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China) proposed the inclusion of a standing item entitled "Staff composition of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other related matters" on the agendas of the Commission and of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC. He noted that, under that item, the Commission could discuss details regarding the staff strength of UNODC, including at its headquarters and field offices, based on geographic representation from developing countries and gender balance, especially at the senior and policymaking levels. Several speakers expressed support for the proposal.

54. In response, the Director of the Division for Management clarified that UNODC was part of the United Nations Secretariat and that, consequently, its human resources policies were guided by relevant decisions of the General Assembly and by decisions of the Secretary-General in line with his functions and prerogatives as set out in the Charter of the United Nations. Therefore, the extent of involvement in and contributions by the Secretariat to that item would be determined accordingly.

55. The Chair recalled that the draft organization of work for the fifty-eighth session of the Commission, including its special segment, had been circulated to the extended Bureau of the Commission on 26 November. According to that organization of work, the regular part of the fifty-eighth session of the Commission in March 2015 would be held from Friday, 13 March to Tuesday, 17 March 2015. In preparation for the regular part of that session, informal consultations would be held on Thursday, 12 March, in parallel to the plenary, and the Committee of the Whole would meet from Friday morning to Tuesday morning.

B. Action taken by the Commission

56. At its 5th meeting, on 5 December 2014, the Commission endorsed the dates, deadlines and arrangements for its fifty-eighth session (see paras. 51, 52 and 55 above).

57. At the same meeting, the Commission approved the draft provisional agenda for the fifty-eighth session, as orally amended to include a sub-item (c) entitled "Staff composition of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other related matters", which would be a standing sub-item on the agenda of the Commission, under item 3, entitled "Policy directives to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and strengthening the drug programme and the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as its governing body, including administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions".

Chapter V

Other business

58. At its 5th meeting, on 5 December 2014, the Commission considered agenda item 14, entitled "Other business". No issues were raised under this agenda item.

Chapter VI

Adoption of the report of the Commission on its reconvened fifty-seventh session

59. At its 5th meeting, on 5 December 2014, the Commission adopted the parts of its report on the organization of the session and administrative matters and on item 12 of the agenda (E/CN.7/2014/L.1/Add.7-8). The Commission decided that, in line with past practice, the present report would be brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council and that a draft decision transmitting the report of the Commission on its reconvened fifty-seventh session to the Economic and Social Council for adoption would be included in the report on the reconvened session. (For the text, see chap. I, sect. A.) The Commission also decided to entrust the finalization of the report to the Chair of the Commission, with the assistance of the Rapporteur.

Chapter VII

Organization of the session and administrative matters

A. Opening and duration of the session

60. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs held its reconvened fifty-seventh session, including a special segment on the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016, in Vienna from 3 to 5 December 2014.

61. In its resolution 57/5, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, inter alia, decided that, in preparation for the special session, it would hold formal meetings following its fifty-seventh session, including two formal meetings immediately preceding its reconvened fifty-seventh session.

62. The extended Bureau, at its meeting of 6 May 2014, recommended that, on 3 December 2014, a one-day special segment should be devoted to the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016. At its intersessional meeting on 4 September 2014, the Commission approved that recommendation and approved the organization of work of the special segment.

63. Furthermore, the Economic and Social Council, in its decision 2011/259, entitled "Joint meetings of the reconvened sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice", decided that, starting in 2011, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice would hold joint meetings during their reconvened sessions for the sole purpose of considering agenda items included in the operational segment of the agendas of both Commissions, with a view to providing integrated policy directives to UNODC on administrative, budgetary and strategic management issues. The Council also decided that the practice of holding back-to-back reconvened sessions of the Commissions would be continued to enable each Commission to consider, in separate meetings, agenda items included in the normative segment of its agenda.

64. The Commission held a total of five meetings at its reconvened fifty-seventh session. The 1st meeting was devoted to the regular part of the reconvened session. Parts of the 2nd, 4th and 5th meetings were partially devoted to the special segment and partially devoted to the regular part of the reconvened session. Furthermore, pursuant to Council decision 2011/259, the 3rd meeting, on 4 December, was held jointly with the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in order to consider item 12 of the agenda of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and item 3 of the agenda of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

65. At the 1st meeting, on 3 December, the Chair of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs opened the reconvened fifty-seventh session.

B. Attendance

66. The reconvened fifty-seventh session was attended by representatives of 44 States members of the Commission (9 were not represented). Observers for other States Members of the United Nations, representatives of entities of the United Nations system and observers for intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations also attended. A list of participants is contained in document E/CN.7/2014/INF/3.

C. Election of officers

67. On 27 August 2014, the Western European and other States nominated Maria Isabel Vicandi Plaza of Spain for the office of Third Vice-Chair. The Commission elected the Third Vice-Chair at the beginning of its reconvened session, during its consideration of agenda item 2.

D. Documentation

68. The documents before the Commission at its reconvened fifty-seventh session are listed in E/CN.7/2014/CRP.14/Add.1.

E. Closure of the reconvened fifty-seventh session

69. At the 5th meeting, on 5 December, a closing statement was made by the Chair of the Commission.

Annex

Statement by the co-chairs of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

1. Following the informal meetings of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the co-chairs submitted the present statement for the consideration of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its reconvened fifty-seventh session and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its reconvened twenty-third session.

2. In accordance with the mandate set out in Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 52/13 and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 18/3, as well as Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 54/10, 54/17 and 56/11, and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolutions 20/1, 20/9 and 22/2, the working group addressed a large number of issues during its recent informal meetings, including: (a) ensuring adequate follow-up to the development of thematic, global and regional programmes; (b) promoting measures to improve the funding situation of UNODC; (c) the consolidated budget for the biennium 2014-2015 for UNODC; and (d) supporting measures to promote a culture of evaluation throughout UNODC at all stages of programme planning, development and implementation.

3. The mandate of the working group will end in the first half of 2015, pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 2013/246. At their respective fifty-eighth and twenty-fourth sessions, in the first half of 2015, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice are expected to carry out a thorough review of the functioning of the working group and consider the extension of its mandate. With a view to facilitating consultations during the reconvened fifty-seventh session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the reconvened twenty-third session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the working group wishes to bring the following salient issues to the attention of the Commissions for their further consideration, so as to continue acting on Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 56/11 and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 22/2.

Continuous support for strengthening the financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

4. The working group has on several occasions discussed fundraising issues and ways to achieve a sustainable balance between core and non-core funding for UNODC to ensure delivery capacity and the sustainability of thematic, global and regional programmes. It has also been considering the implementation of Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 56/17 and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 22/9 and has been briefed on the transition to the new full cost recovery funding model.

5. Should the Commissions decide to extend the mandate of the working group, they might wish to request it to continue examining and discussing the funding situation and financial management of UNODC, inter alia, by:

(a) Receiving reports on, and facilitating, the resource mobilization process to promote UNODC integrated programmes,[a] stressing their resource requirements, and to enhance funding predictability in line with the medium-term strategy;

(b) Continuing to discuss with UNODC the efforts to further encourage donors to provide general-purpose funding, including by means of further increasing transparency and improving the application of full cost recovery and the quality of reporting and communication, as well as to continue to discuss the reasons for the low level of general-purpose funding with a view to the restoration of an adequate balance between general-purpose and special-purpose funds;

(c) Continuing to consider further the feasibility, progress and impact of the implementation of full cost recovery and the flexible application of programme support costs, with a view to increasing the effectiveness and results of the technical assistance programmes of the Office.

Continuous support for promoting an integrated programme approach

6. The working group has been following progress by UNODC in implementing an integrated programming approach that seeks to strengthen the links between normative mandates and operational technical assistance and improving linkages between policy, strategic planning, evaluation, programmatic work, mobilization of resources and partnerships with all relevant stakeholders.

7. Should the Commissions decide to extend the mandate of the working group, they might wish to request it to:

(a) Continue promoting regular dialogue among all Member States, as well as with UNODC, on the planning and formulation of the operational activities of UNODC, especially with regard to its thematic, global and regional programmes, in line with the medium-term strategy and strategic framework;

(b) Continue receiving information from UNODC on progress made in the implementation of regional, global and thematic programmes, as well as on progress made with regard to integrating lessons learned and recommendations from evaluations within and across regions, ensuring complementarities among programmes and their alignment with the strategic framework for the period 2014-2015 and the strategy of UNODC for the period 2012-2015;

(c) Continue discussing with UNODC the implementation of results-based management and budgeting.

Continuous support for promoting a culture of evaluation within the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime at all stages of programme planning, development and implementation

8. The working group has been provided with numerous presentations on evaluation findings, and on those occasions participants have reiterated the importance of having a sustainable, effective and operationally independent

[a] The UNODC definition of "integrated programming approach" also includes programme review committee-approved country programmes.

corporate evaluation function at UNODC, focused on the implementation, performance and impact of integrated programmes and the consistency with mandates of the Office.

9. Should the Commissions decide to extend the mandate of the working group, they might wish to request it to invite the Independent Evaluation Unit to:

(a) Continue providing the working group with evaluation findings on UNODC programmes;

(b) Continue promoting a culture of evaluation throughout UNODC at all stages of programme planning, development and implementation;

(c) Continue working with UNODC in monitoring the implementation of recommendations made by relevant oversight bodies;

(d) Continue working with UNODC on building increased coordination between evaluation, audit and other oversight bodies with the aim of building a coordinated continuum of oversight of UNODC projects and programmes.

Continuous support for strengthening human resources governance to improve gender balance and geographical representation

10. The working group has been discussing the question of geographical representation and gender balance in the composition of the UNODC staff, as part of its efforts to improve the governance of the Office.

11. Should the Commissions decide to extend the mandate of the working group, they may wish to request it to:

(a) Continue addressing the issue of gender and geographical representation and its evolution under a specific agenda item, in order to discuss possible measures for improvement in this area;

(b) Continue receiving updated and comprehensive information, including in a disaggregated way, on the composition of the staff and the recruitment policies of UNODC.

Extending the mandate and reviewing the format and organization of work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

12. The working group has proved its efficiency in supporting the improvement of the governance and financial situation of UNODC by continuing to be the forum for dialogue among Member States and between Member States and the Secretariat on the development and implementation of the thematic and regional programmes of UNODC and by continuing to discuss on a regular basis financial and governance matters relating to UNODC.

13. Should the Commissions decide to extend the mandate of the working group, they might wish to review its current format and organization of work at their regular sessions in 2015, thereby considering the concrete proposals in this regard.